

# **PRESS RELEASE**

## **Treasures of the Texas Coast Children's Art Contest opens**

Top prize: United Airline tickets, Royal Caribbean Cruise and a class trip to Schlitterbahn

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AUSTIN — Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson is calling for entries in the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Adopt-A-Beach Treasures of the Texas Coast Children's Art Contest. The deadline to submit artwork is Monday, March 4.

Winning artwork will appear together in the 2014 Adopt-A-Beach calendar, which will be distributed throughout the state.

The annual competition encourages schoolchildren to learn more about the Texas coast and express what they've learned through their art. Open to students in grades K-6 across Texas, the contest motivates thousands of young artists each year.

This year's grand prize winner will receive two round-trip coach-class tickets from United Airlines to any United destination anywhere in North America, one 7-night Caribbean cruise from Royal Caribbean International departing out of Galveston, Miami, or Ft. Lauderdale, and a class party at Schlitterbahn Waterpark in New Braunfels. The grand prize winner's teacher will also receive two round-trip coach-class tickets from United Airlines, and one 7-night Caribbean cruise courtesy of Royal Caribbean International.

Ten winners will be chosen from each of four grade-level categories (K - 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup>) for a total of 40 winners. One grand prize winner will be chosen from among the 40 finalists.

All 40 winners will receive a ticket to the Texas State Aquarium in Corpus Christi, two all-day passes to Schlitterbahn Waterpark in New Braunfels, a ticket to the permanent exhibit hall at the Houston Museum of Natural Science, a ticket to the Houston Zoo, a certificate of recognition and prizes from the Texas General Land Office and a calendar displaying the winning artwork.

Artwork must be displayed on a plain sheet of white 8 ½-inch by 11-inch paper and can be in any medium except computer generated. Three-dimensional art or artwork displaying logos, product brands and/or store names is ineligible. Only one entry per student is allowed, and all entries must have a completed parental release form taped to the back. Parental release forms may be printed from the Land Office website located at [www.texasadoptabeach.org](http://www.texasadoptabeach.org). Each contest entry must be postmarked by Monday, March 4, 2013.

Students are encouraged to color copy their artwork prior to sending it in because all artwork submitted becomes property of the Texas General Land Office and cannot be returned.

This year's contest sponsors are Royal Caribbean International, United Airlines, Schlitterbahn Waterparks, the Texas State Aquarium, the Houston Museum of Natural Science and the Houston Zoo.

For more information and contest guidelines on the "Treasures of the Texas Coast" 2013 Children's Art Contest, please contact the General Land Office at 1-877-TXCOAST or visit our website at <http://www.texasadoptabeach.org>.

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